

Message Text

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EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECDEF, CJCS, USNMR SHAPE, USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PO, PARM, ASEC

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE AT MINISTERIAL AND MC CHIEFS OF
STAFF MEETINGS.

1. USDELMC REPORTS THAT MC CHAIRMAN, ADMIRAL SIR PETER HILL-NORTON, MET WITH UK, NORWEGIAN AND US MC REPS, AS WELL AS IMS DIRECTOR SCHMUCKLE (FRG) TO DISCUSS ISSUE OF PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATION AT DECEMBER MINISTERIAL AND MC MEETING IN CHIEFS OF STAFF SESSION(MCCS).

2. IN THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION, HILL-NORTON COMPLAINED THAT SYG LUNS AND OTHERS IN IS HAD NOT FACED-UP TO THE PROBLEM OF ADDRESSING SENSITIVE MATTERS WITH SENIOR PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS PRESENT IN THE COURSE OF DECEMBER MINISTERIAL DISCUSSIONS. ACCORDINGLY, HE ASKED UK MC REP, ADMIRAL MCKAIG, AND DEPUTY US MC REP, GENERAL CANTLAY, TO CONVEY TO UK AND US CHARGES HIS CONCERN ABOUT THIS ISSUE, WITH THE HOPE THAT US AND UK WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO ASSURE THAT THE MATTER WAS ADDRESSED IN ADVANCE OF DECEMBER MEETINGS.

3. HISS-NORTON FEARED, TOO, THAT IF THE PORTUGUESE WERE PRESENT FOR DISCUSSION OF MATERIALS CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL OR ABOVE, THE DISCUSSION WOULD BE STERILE, A POINT HE PLANNED TO MAKE IN A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO THE CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE COUNTRIES REPRESENTED IN HIS PRIVATE MEETING. ACCORDINGLY, HE PROPOSED THAT THE MCCS
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TAKE PLACE IN REGULAR PLENARY IN THE MORNING TO ADDRESS ISSUES CLASSIFIED CONFIDENTIAL AND BELOW, LEAVING THE AFTERNOON FOR RUMP BILATERAL OR TRILATERAL SESSIONS OR MEETING OF ALL MCCS REPS EXCEPT PORTUGUESE IN INFORMAL SESSION. AFTER HEARING THE

VIEWS OF THE CHIEFS OF STAFF TO WHOM HE WAS WRITING, HE PLANNED TO CIRCULATE HIS PROPOSAL FORMALLY TO ALL CHIEFS OF STAFF EXCEPT THAT OF PORTUGAL. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE THOUGHT THAT PERHAPS THE PORTUGUESE MILREP COULD REPRESENT HIS CHIEF OF STAFF AT THE MCCS A POSSIBILITY HILL-NORTON MIGHT EXPLORE.

3. COMMENT: PENDING RECEIPT OF WASHINGTON GUIDANCE, WE WOULD NOT PLAN TO PURSUE THIS ISSUE WITH IS, IMS, OR OTHER DELEGATIONS. HILL-NORTON'S PROPOSAL TO HAVE THE MC REP STAND IN FOR PORTUGUESE CHIEF OF STAFF AT MC CHIEFS OF STAFF MEETING MIGHT PROVIDE A RESOLUTION OF THAT ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, IN ANY CASE, THE ALLIES WILL ALSO NEED SOON TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF HIGH-LEVEL PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE AT THE AUTUMN MINISTERIAL AND MCCS MEETINGS, WHERE HIGHLY SENSITIVE MATTERS INVARIABLY ARE DISCUSSED, INCLUDING ALLIED FORCE PLANS, MBFR AND NUCLEAR ISSUES. SUBJECT TO EMBASSY LISBON'S VIEWS, A POSSIBLE SOLUTION MIGHT ENTAIL ASKING LUNS TO RAISE WITH DE FREITAS CRUZ THE POSSIBILITY OF THE LATTER PROPOSING TO HIS AUTHORITIES IN LISBON THAT PORTUGUESE ATTENDANCE AT THE AUTUMN MINISTERIAL AND MCCS MEETINGS BE STRICTLY LIMITED TO THOSE KNOWN BY MODERATE ELEMENTS IN GOP TO BE RELIABLE. ALTERNATIVELY

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LUNS HIMSELF MIGHT COMMUNICATE THROUGH DE FREITAS CRUZ TO FONMIN ANTUNES, POINTING OUT THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM AND PROPOSING THAT THE PORTUGUESE TAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS TO ASSURE SECURITY OF DISCUSSIONS BY CONTROLLING WHO ATTENDS FOR THEM. SUCH APPROACHES MIGHT BE DEFERRED FOR A TIME, BUT PRESSURES IN THIS DIRECTION WILL MOUNT AS TIME PASSES. REQUEST GUIDANCE. END COMMENT.
STREATOR

NOTE BY OCT: NOT PASSED ABOVE.

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